

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving information identifying a payment account [identifier];

identifying a first authorization request that involved [involving] said payment account [identifier], where said first authorization request was declined for a previous purchase transaction; and

creating a manual authorization record associated with said payment account [identifier] and said purchase transaction using information from said first authorization request, said manual authorization record allowing approval of a second authorization request involving said payment account [identifier] and said purchase transaction.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said payment account [identifier] is associated with a purchasing card issued to a purchasing entity having a program administrator.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said manual authorization record is created in response to a request by said program administrator.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said payment account [identifier] is associated with at least one of account-level and corporate-level authorization controls.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said first authorization request is declined based on a failure of said transaction to comply with at least one of said account-level and said corporate-level authorization controls.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said manual authorization record operates to override at least one of said account-level and said corporate-level authorization controls.

7. (Original) An authorization method, comprising:
- receiving a request from a vendor to authorize a transaction involving a payment account identifier, said transaction including terms;
  - confirming that the payment account identified by said payment account identifier is open;
  - confirming that a manual authorization record is not associated with said payment account identifier; and
  - after confirming that a manual authorization record is not associated with said payment account identifier, authorizing said transaction if all of a plurality of account-level or corporate-level controls associated with said payment account identifier are met by said terms of said transaction.
8. (Original) An authorization method, comprising:
- receiving a request from a vendor to authorize a transaction involving a payment account identifier, said transaction including terms;
  - confirming that the payment account identified by said payment account identifier is open; and
  - prior to determining whether said payment account identifier is associated with one or more corporate- or account-level controls, confirming that a manual authorization record is associated with said payment account identifier; and
  - authorizing said transaction if said transaction terms satisfy requirements of said manual authorization record.
9. (Amended) An authorization system, comprising:
- means for receiving information for identifying a payment account [identifier];
  - means for identifying a first authorization request involving said payment account [identifier], said first authorization request was declined for a purchase transaction; and
  - means for creating a manual authorization record associated with said payment account [identifier] and said transaction using information from said first authorization request, said

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manual authorization record allowing approval of a second authorization request involving said payment account [identifier] and said purchase transaction.

10. (Original) An apparatus, comprising:

a processor; and,

a memory in communication with said processor and storing instructions for operating said processor to:

receive an authorization request message, said authorization request message identifying a payment account and terms of a transaction;

declining said authorization request message based on a failure of said terms to comply with one or more account limitations associated with said payment account;

establishing a manual authorization record including information from said first authorization request message; and

authorizing a subsequent authorization request message associated with said payment account by comparing terms of a subsequent transaction with said manual authorization record.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said payment account is associated with a purchasing card issued to a purchasing entity having a program administrator.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said manual authorization record is created in response to a request by said program administrator.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said payment account is associated with at least one of account-level and corporate-level authorization controls.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said first authorization request is declined based on a failure of said transaction to comply with at least one of said account-level and said corporate-level authorization controls.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said manual authorization record operates to override at least one of said account-level and said corporate-level authorization controls.